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# Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

A Federally Recognized Indian Tribe Organized Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 476

11404 Moorage Way

LaConner, Washington 98257-0817

October 25, 2012

Ted Sturdevant, Director  
Washington Department of Ecology  
PO Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600  
ATTN: Toxic Cleanup Program  
[martha.hankins@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:martha.hankins@ecy.wa.gov)

RE: Comments on Fish Consumption Rate Technical Support Document version 2.0

Dear Director Sturdevant,

Version 2.0 of the Technical Support Document (TSD) is a step backwards. By omitting the proposed FCR default range and requesting a second round of comments, Ecology has unnecessarily watered down and delayed publication of a key document that could aid in revising Washington's current, woefully under-protective standards. While Ecology continues to stall the already years behind "tri-annual review" of standards, the health of Washington State's citizens continues to suffer.

1. Reinsert the proposed FCR default range of 157 to 267 gpd. The range is supported by several scientifically defensible fish consumption rate documents, as well as the independent statistical review Ecology requested (The-Mountain-Whisper-Light analysis). This proposed rate isn't protective of all of Washington residents, and in particular many tribal peoples who actively engage in traditional practices, yet we feel that it is an important step in the right direction.
2. Salmon must be included in the fish consumption rates.

We attach our comment letter for Version 1 here in order to reiterate our positions regarding this document.

The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians passed Resolution #12-54 at the 2012 Annual Convention calling for a fish consumption rate of no less than 175 gpd for human health criteria rulemaking in the Pacific Northwest ([www.atntribes.org/sites/default/files/res\\_12\\_54.pdf](http://www.atntribes.org/sites/default/files/res_12_54.pdf)). As a member Tribe of ATNI, we stand by this Resolution and request that Ecology adopt a default rate of 175 gpd in the



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water quality standards and sediment management standards, as well as reinstating the default rate language in the TSD.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara James".

Barbara James, Vice Chair  
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community